

**Security Council**

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Identical letters dated 17 March 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Today, 17 March 2017, Israeli aircraft committed a new act of wanton aggression against the Syrian Arab Republic in flagrant defiance of international law, United Nations resolutions and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. At 0240 hours this morning, four Israeli aircraft violated Syrian airspace via Lebanese territory in the Burayj area. They attacked one of the Syrian military posts in the vicinity of the city of Tadmur (Palmyra) in the eastern Homs countryside. In exercise of the right to defend territorial integrity, Syrian anti-aircraft defences responded to the attack by bringing down one of the hostile aircraft. The remaining Israeli aircraft were forced to retreat.

This flagrant Israeli aggression was hardly the first of its kind. It comes as part of a long series of attacks carried out by Israel to support its agents in the terrorist war against Syria. The Syrian Arab Republic stresses that Israel has mobilized all its security, military and political capabilities, both directly and indirectly, to enable the terrorists to weaken Syria, and to prolong the terrorist war for as long as possible to sap Syria of its strength. Regardless of what Israel might claim, its support for armed terrorist fighters in the area of separation, its provision of weapons, and its provision of medical treatment to wounded fighters in Israeli hospitals are nothing but manifestations of its support for terrorism, which has been amply documented by reports submitted to the Security Council by the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force.

The Israeli attack that took place this morning is a new Israeli attempt to raise the terrorist groups' morale, which is sinking in the wake of recent defeats suffered at the hands of the Syrian Arab Army and its allies in Dayr al-Zawr, Dar'a, Homs and numerous other places.

Syria stresses that the pretexts and allegations put forward by Israel to justify launching its attacks are no different from the pathetic, misleading and failed attempts it has made time and again to justify its continued illegal occupation of the Syrian Golan, Occupied Palestinian Territory and the remaining occupied parts of southern Lebanon.

Syria calls on the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council to condemn this blatant Israeli aggression, which is a violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the relevant United Nations resolutions and the 1974 Disengagement of Forces Agreement. Syria also calls for Israel to be



compelled to stop supporting terrorism in Syria, implement Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions, including resolution 2253 (2015), withdraw from the occupied Syrian Golan to the lines of 4 June 1967, and implement Security Council resolution 497 (1981).

These Israeli attacks on Syria jeopardize not only security and peace in the region, but also security and stability around the world.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mounzer Mounzer
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
